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FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 4
2nd JANUARY 1982
KICK-OFF 3.00 P.M.

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Town Chatter



Welcome to our first home match of 1982 and New Year greetings to everyone.

This afternoon we have Wigan Athletic as our visitors as we come up to the halfway stage of the season.

All our hopes are of course that our skipper Kevin Bird will be available once again for selection after missing a number of matches first because of a thigh strain and then a ruptured thigh muscle.

With the need to operate with a small playing staff it is of vital importance that our experienced players be available.

And we have been very unfortunate that in addition to Kevin our player manager Stuart Boam has also been out for a considerable time because of a back injury.

The absence of these two players has been a serious blow to the club, however we feel that our playing fortunes have begun to turn the corner, and the second half of the season will see us climb steadily up the table, towards a much more secure position.

Our visitors today are managed of course by the former Nottingham Forest player Larry Lloyd.

And they also have in their ranks another former local player from the opposite bank of the River Trent Les Bradd, who was a long-serving member of Notts County F.C.

Wigan are enjoying quite a successful season not only in the league but in the League Cup in which they defeated Second Division Chelsea in the last round.

There is little need to emphasise that a win must be our objective this afternoon particularly as a curtain-raiser for a trip next weekend to Dean Court, where we play our return game with Bournemouth who are very much up there with the current front runners.

This will be a quick return to his former club for Trevor Morgan who joined us from the Seaside only a few weeks ago and has quickly got among the goals for us.

After our trip to Bournemouth we shall be at home on successive Saturdays with Hartlepool United and Peterborough United as our opponents.

We are pleased to report that our reserves side has had a successful run of late with a 3-0 victory over a strong Grimsby side just before the holiday one of the outstanding performances.

There can be little doubt that our reserve side of the moment is one of the youngest ever to represent the club,

with a number of very young amateurs included because of our small professional staff.

The youngsters are acquitting themselves very well indeed and the experience at this level they receive will be invaluable to us in the future.

It is of increasing necessity to discover and develop local talent, and we are sure that several of our current "babes" will develop into the stars of the future.

The trend is continued in the Notts Youth League's Senior Division in which our "B" team operates.

Despite the fact that this team is used to give trialists a run out to assess their capabilities, the side is in a leading position in their division as well as making progress in the League Cup and the Notts Senior Shield.

The same can be said of the "A" team in the Midland Intermediate League.

They have been turning in some fine performances despite the imperative team changes.

And there has been none better than their recent 2-2 draw with Shrewsbury Town... bearing in mind that the Second Division side operate their reserve side in this competition.

What a disaster the month of December has been for football. The very adverse weather conditions creating havoc with the fixture list. With most Clubs meetings out of the Boxing Day programme, what is recognised as the day for the best gate of the season. The odd games that were played once again proved the point with increased attendances.

We have already re-arranged one of the postponed games for the 20th January, against Bradford City at Valley Parade, and by the time you read these notes we shall have announced a new date for our home match with York City.

Once again a lot of views and comments have been expressed in the press regarding under-soil heating. Closing down for a period and so on and so forth. Some of these Clubs with under soil heating who have played matches were reported to be disappointed with the attendances. The Football League are holding a fixtures seminar in February, when one assumes that this will be one of the problems discussed.

FRONT COVER: Action against Doncaster Rovers.

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WIGAN ATHLETIC

LARRY LLOYD (Player Manager). Appointed in the second half of last season as player/manager, this battle hardened English international has already brought a more professional approach to the play of the side under his control. A fierce competitor, with over 400 Football League games to his credit, and a wealth of experience acquired with Bristol Rovers, Liverpool, Coventry City and Nottingham Forest, Larry Lloyd expects great things this year. Certainly, he will produce a side that will be hard to beat and may yet achieve the promotion so earnestly longed for.

JOHN BROWN. Bradford born John was an apprentice joiner before he stepped into League Football with Preston at 17. His progress at Deepdale was hindered by the reliable Eric International, Alan Kelly, and after spending 11½ years with North End, he was released in 1975. He then had one season with Stockport County before joining Wigan Athletic, for whom he has been a most reliable and efficient keeper at both non-league and Football League levels. Wigan's Player of the Year in 1979-1980. John has over 200 Football League appearances to his credit.

JOHN McMAHON. Newly acquired from Crewe Alexandra during the close season, John has already featured prominently in Wigan's pre-season friendly fixtures. His experience gained with Preston North End and other Football League clubs has brought a more professional look to Wigan's Back Four and his polished skills and keen positional sense have earned the praise of Wigan's critical fans. John has well over 300 Football League appearances to his credit and is expected to be a key figure in the Springfield Park clubs push for promotion.

COLIN METHVEN. Manager Ian McNeill's deep knowledge of Scottish football enabled him to search out this strong and positive player who became Wigan's record signing at a fee of £30,000 from East Fife in October, 1979. It was soon obvious that the money had been well-spent, for Colin, good in the air and strong in the tackle, soon took over as Captain of the Wigan side and led his men to glory in Wigan's great F.A. Cup run, Season 1979-1980. Another key figure in Wigan's defensive organisation, Methven looks forward eagerly to a promotion-challenging year ahead. Now over 200 competitive games played at English and Scottish Football League level.

CLIVE EVANS. Joined Wigan in the close-season from Tranmere Rovers for a sizeable fee, having already completed over 150 Football League appearances and scored over 30 goals for the Merseyside club.

He has shown promise in the pre-season games and is likely to be a key figure in Larry Lloyd's re-organised team structure. A precise and cultured player.

GRAHAM BARROW. Another close-season signing from Alliance Premier League side, Altrincham. A strong, aggressive player, who, once he adjusts to the demands of full-time football, should prove an asset as Wigan set their stall out to gain promotion.

KEVIN SHELDON. Signed from Stoke City during the summer, Kevin, a natural winger, is expected to give the Wigan Athletic side width in attack and a good supply of crosses for the team's strike force. Tricky and brave, this young player is anxious to give his career a boost, after recovering from a series of set-backs, in the shape of leg injuries, during his stay with "The Potters". Warmly welcomed by the Springfield Park spectators.

DAVID GLENN. Wigan Athletic's first apprentice after their elevation to the Football League, local boy David has been the revelation of the pre-season games. Not only has this talented youngster performed well in his customary wing role, but he has also turned in excellent performances in the left-back position against both Walsall and Sheffield Wednesday. More will be heard of this promising player in the months ahead.

MIKE QUINN. After battling his way through from the Wigan Athletic Youth XI and the Reserves, Mike made his mark as the Club's leading goal-scorer in the 1980-1981 Football League campaign. He has gone from strength to strength in the pre-season games, notching figures against a variety of opposition from non-league to Football League Division 1 levels. If he can maintain momentum, this strong, bustling youngster is sure to attract the interest of clubs higher up the Football League scale in the months ahead.

PETER HOUGHTON. After showing a great deal of promise in Wigan Athletic's first two seasons in League Football, Peter struggled last year against a series of niggling injuries and inconsistent form. However, towards the end of last year's campaign, he began to hit something near his top form, his goal touch returned, and, supported by Quinn and Bradd, he should be back among the goals again this season. On his day, a really exciting attacker.

JEFF WRIGHT. This hard working and skilful midfield player has appeared more times for Wigan Athletic as a Football League player than any other player currently on the books of the club. Although he has been unable to continue his long run of appearances at the start of the season, it is anticipated that, before long, he will be back in contention for a place in the side. Has served Wigan Athletic well both at non-league and Football League levels.



Front Row — Left to Right: Fred Eyre (Asst. Manager), Kevin Sheldon, Mark Wignall, David Glenn, Larry Lloyd (Manager), Steve McAdam, John McMahon, Jeff Wright, Kenny Banks (Trainer/Coach).
Back Row — Left to Right: Clive Evans, Les Bradd, Neil Davids, Graham Barrow, John Brown, Bob Ward, Colin Methven, Mike Quinn, Peter Houghton, Alex Cribley.

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NO MINISTER!

AN APPEAL by Bert Millichip, chairman of the Football Association for "Government intervention on a large scale" in the campaign to combat hooliganism met with abject failure.

Sickened as all true lovers of our national pastime have been for many years now, by the moronic and senseless behaviour of loutish thugs, mindlessly proclaiming their allegiance to the game they are slowly killing, by spreading mahem and havoc across the Continent — Mr. Millichip is understandably deeply concerned.

"Why should we be ashamed of being British" he rightly challenges. As one who has experienced the guilt feeling following the riot in Turin in 1980 when England met Belgium in the European Championship and later in Basle when violence erupted last summer as Switzerland beat England, I sympathise deeply with the chairman's frustration.

The point is that the whole dilemma is way out of the control of football administrators simply because the "FA has insufficient muscle to act further on its own."

Whether we like it or not the Government must stop burying its head in the sand. The problem is a social one and it hasn't gone away nor will it until positive action is implemented.

Perhaps the Sports Minister Neil Macfarlane and his colleagues have never encountered a horde of bare chested boover boys draped in filthy Union Jacks venting their uncontrolled and ferocious aggression upon the innocent inhabitants of foreign towns and villages. It is not a pretty sight.

FRIGHTENING

Girls and women are mollsted, children terrorised. I witnessed an incident in a park in Basle hours before the World Cup qualifying match kicked off, when three skinheads; bare to the midriff and shouting obscene slogans, descended on a man and a woman with a small child and ripped the child's ball away to then run off and commence a game of football on the other side of the park. Do we really wish to subject the Spanish at the height of their tourist season to such acts of depravity?

Macfarlane says he is anxious to solve the problem but as usual his actions do not support his words. The Sports Minister's answer is to increase the staff at the consulate in Spain and he says: "The Foreign Office will publish a booklet of do's and don'ts which will be circulated to everyone going to Spain." Just who do the ministry think they are dealing with . . . a Sunday school outing!

He added: "We want to see crowd segregation at matches and the appointment of liaison officers in all the Spanish regions by the World soccer body." If that is not passing the buck then I don't know what is.

Either the Government are not fully conversant with the cancer in their midst or they are not interested, or even worse powerless to contain it never mind control it. Whichever conclusion you draw the consequences are frightening.

Bert Millichip, who is a lawyer, has asked for stern action and requested the Government to withdraw passports from fans who have misbehaved abroad. To my mind that does not go far enough. Any person found guilty of hooliganism over the past two seasons should be barred from travelling to Spain during the period of the World Cup Finals.

MORALITY

Of course to suggest such a thing is to evoke the wrath of those defenders of civil liberty. But what about the liberty of decent folk? Surely the fact that a lot of parents are afraid to take youngsters to football matches because of the violence of a minority amounts to the same thing — the prevention of ordinary people doing what they want to do because of the vicious few.

Of course to ban the thugs from leaving our shores would require a change in the Laws and many see this as a dangerous precedent. If it starts there where does it end is the question . . . before long we could find ourselves in a police state.

One can understand the caution, but in all honesty is it moral to unleash packs of marauding mindless idiots on the subjects of a friendly nation?

Of course not. British football's administrators know it, all sane thinking people know it and yet the Government refuses to accept liability. Neil Macfarlane's contribution would be laughable were the implications not so serious. If strong preventive action is not instituted then the riotous rowdies will ruin a momentous footballing occasion. The activities of Ron Greenwood and his team will be lost beneath the volumes of outrage . . . and the end result could be the banning of England and English clubs from European and international competitions.

Is that really acceptable by the majority? Even non-footballing patriots I am sure would be appalled to think that their country should be cast out by the rest of the world because of the degrading violations of common dignity by some of their so called supporters. But that deplorable deprivation is far too close to reality as the situation now stands. Concrete and positive action is called for before it is too late. The Government must ban the trash from Spain.

COLIN BENSON



Bulldog Bobby the FA's World Cup mascot has an all too striking resemblance to some of the thugs who will invade Spain!

LEE CHAPMAN

SHRUGS OFF THAT UNFASHIONABLE TAG

It was perhaps inevitable that the son of a Lincoln City professional footballer, born in Scorers Street, Lincoln, should some 21 years later turn out to be one of the country's most exciting young strikers.

Lee Chapman who is now rattling in goals as though there were no tomorrow, was certainly raised in a footballing environment and the step towards making it his full time career seemed a natural progression.

The youngest first joined Stoke City as an Associated Schoolboy and was rewarded with his first professional forms in June 1978, when still only a very raw 18.

"I have steadily improved every season," he proudly boasts "my control is getting better, my overall ability is getting better, my heading is getting better and hopefully my goalscoring is getting better.

"But although I feel I am improving all the time there is still a lot to do and I am working hard at my game trying to improve every facet. I suppose my left foot is one area which I have worked on more than any but in general I do not concentrate on one specific area. I am looking for all round improvement.

Standing 6' 1½" and a natural athlete, it was not long before young Lee forced his way into contention for a first team place. The big moment of selection came on October 2, 1979 when he replaced Brendan O'Callaghan in the number nine shirt for the Football League Cup Third Round replay match at Swindon Town. It was a night of mixed feelings for the talented debut boy, for he scored early in the second-half, but it was not enough to prevent Swindon winning 2-1.

REGULAR

Lee had to wait four months for his next taste of the big time, four months to the day in fact when on February 2, 1980 he stepped out for his First Division baptism at the Victoria Ground against Bristol City. The Potters won 1-0 and Lee had done enough to keep his place for the next game at Crystal Palace. This time he scored what was to prove the only goal of the match... Lee Chapman had arrived.

He finished the season with three goals in 14 appearances and then last season established himself as Stoke's regular centre forward, missing just one game against Coventry City. But what was even more encouraging was his call-up into the England Under-21 side for the international against the Republic of Ireland at Anfield last February.

"That was a marvellous experience," recalls Lee, "I must admit that I have been a bit disappointed that I have not been included in the squad this year but that has not deterred me in any way, I am still looking to be selected at any international level... I just have to keep on improving.

"Stoke City are not a fashionable club and this is half the problem really. You have to do something tremendously outstanding to be noticed and that is a little unfair. Unfortunately we have been branded with this image of being a dour defensive outfit which is

quite untrue these days, but it is always hard to live down a reputation. The trouble is when it comes to representative honours it is the Liverpool's and Manchester United's of this world who catch the eye.

"It is a gross injustice though to label the current Stoke side as boring. At times this season we have been too positive for our own good. Our manager Richie Barker has encouraged us to get forward and take chances and this has sometimes led to us losing games which we should not have lost.

"Not that I am grumbling, I think it is great. It certainly helps my cause as a striker. Last season I was a lonely sole on many occasions, stuck up front by myself without much chance of scoring.

NATURAL GIFT

"But the fact that I have played in very few dull boring games this season is an indication that we are attacking much more because it takes two teams to make a good game. And it is not only Stoke who are placing more emphasis on attack, I think it is a general trend throughout the First Division. Most of our games have been attacking games with people pushing forward to try and win.

"I don't think this has resulted in many more goals being scored, but the general idea has definitely been more positive because of the three points for a win. Why there are not that many more goals I don't know. I can't answer for other players I can only speak for myself but maybe we don't spend enough time working on shooting skills in this country. On the continent they do a lot more shooting from further out — 30 or 40 yards or so — which we don't even attempt. We have got the players with the ability, it is just a matter of encouraging them to do it."

One of the major factors in Lee's form which netted him 14 goals in the opening 15 games this season has been his partnership with the diminutive Adrian Heath.

"Yes I think Adrian's best position is as a striker alongside me. He is only 5' 5" and he feeds off me as the target man and this works well between us. We complement each other nicely and when you are working as a pair you create opportunities for each other. We create openings and work off each other effectively.

"Sometimes however Adrian is played wide for tactical reasons and I am left up front by myself which is very hard. We did this at Coventry and did not create anything which can be very disheartening. But overall I am pleased with my progress and hope to continue to develop into a much better player."

Lee has a natural gift for goals and that is a priceless asset. But he has not just burst onto the football scene, it has been a steady and encouraging progression. Last term he netted 17 League goals and two in the cups and if he continues to maintain his current development then LEE CHAPMAN could be a name to look out for when England contest the European Championship in 1984.



BOOK REVIEW

John Nolan
takes a look at
some books
which will be
of interest to
football
enthusiasts.

TREVOR BROOKING: AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

by Trevor Brooking in collaboration with Brian Scovell
Published by Pelham Books £6.95.

This is a refreshing insight into Trevor Brooking's own football world. He arrived late in the game, yet has enjoyed 16 years as a professional with many fond memories. Like the gentleman he is, most of his stories tell about the good side of football although he does recall the bribes offered to his father as an incentive for him to sign for certain clubs when he was a youngster.

It is not all glamour, Trevor has lived the bad times as well, like in 1971 when he was out of the side and his wife hid from the window cleaner because she was so short of money.

We learn about the inside story of why Ron Greenwood agreed that it would be best for him to leave West Ham, and learn Trevor's views on the issues facing the modern game. He pulls no punches and is quick to criticise the way boys are developed in this country with the emphasis on "work, chase and hurry."

The book also reveals Trevors plans to quit at the end of his contract and take up the threads in America. Fascinating and enjoyable reading.

MATCH WEEKLY ALL-STAR FOOTBALL SPECIAL

Published by EMAP National £1.95



This action packed cavalcade of big name stars follows the established and successful Match Weekly formula. From the front cover to the back every page is busy and lively and of course supplemented by the usual excellent pictures. And not only do the big name stars have their say. Prominence is also given to the lesser known performers such as Dave Watson of Norwich City and the less

glamorous clubs like Mansfield Town. For the youngster with football on his mind this is excellent value.

DON HOWE SUPER SOCCER SKILLS

Edited by Norman Barrett. Published by Granada
Paperback 85p

As one would expect from one of the best coaches in the country this little book is a gem for those interested in the development of young players. Don Howe says: "Playing

football is fun for all ages" and in this book he certainly gives some good ideas on how to make the development of skill a fun thing. I have already tried some of the exercises out on the Under-12 team that I coach and they thoroughly enjoyed themselves... you can't get a better recommendation than that. This is a must for anyone who deals with young footballers.

ARSENAL QUIZ BOOK

Edited by Maurice Kinn

Published by Maurice Kinn Productions Paperback £1.25

If you like quizzes and are interested in Arsenal then you should get hours of fun out of this new venture. There are tantalising teasers, questions on transfers, records and individual star players. It's all there for the avid Gunners fan.

THE MANCHESTER UNITED OFFICIAL ANNUAL 1982

Compiled by Stan Liversedge and John Keith

Published by Circle Publications Ltd. Hard back £3.45

This lively and attractive album gives an excellent synopsis of the past year at Old Trafford.



Backed by superb photographs on nearly all of the 72 pages, the book makes easy reading and keeps you up to date with the changing faces at this great club.

I particularly enjoyed the section recalling the milestones in United's glorious history and the statistics section which covers all the clubs sides is also very useful.

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HODDLE- the enigma

ONE OF THE BIGGEST ENIGMA'S IN ENGLISH FOOTBALL is the failure of Glenn Hoddle to establish himself as a regular international performer.

Since he made his England debut against Bulgaria in November 1979, the Tottenham Hotspur maestro has made only eight appearances for his country, despite the fact that he is probably the most naturally gifted player in the British Isles.

His ability to control, caress and pass a ball is second to none and when it comes to technique he far outshines Ardiles and Villa his two illustrious Argentinian team mates. In short he is potentially the most exciting player in the country and certainly the one most likely to become world class if given the chance.

His last appearance in an England shirt was the debacle of Oslo when he was brought off against Norway — some believe unfairly because even during this disgraceful team performance Hoddle had created three good openings which is more than could be said for some of his colleagues.

"The Norway game was an unhappy experience for me and although it is too late to do anything about it now, I wish I could have reproduced my best form in that game" says the Tottenham stylist.

THE BOSS

Glenn's manager Keith Burkinshaw has some positive thoughts on why his golden boy has not lived up to his reputation at this level and explains: "Football is all about confidence and looking at Glenn in the Oslo game it was obvious that he had no confidence at all.

"Glenn needs to be running things. That is how it is when he plays for us, he is the one who orchestrates the Tottenham team and he knows he is the leader even though we have some great players in the team.

"He needs that responsibility if he is going to be a player and somehow I don't feel that he assumes that role in the national side. I am not too sure why but it could be because



he does not think that he is capable of doing this for England.

"It is a pity until he gets it into his head that he is the one who is going to do it for England we will not see him at his best. It is up to Glenn, he is the only one who can go out there and prove it on the field. All the talking in the world will not help unless he decides to show everyone that he is a really good midfield player at international level. If he does not do this then he will never realise his potential."

CONUNDRUM

That would be a tragedy for Hoddle and English football which is crying out for a super-star image. But it is not that simple as Glenn reveals when he says: "It is more a mental problem than anything. I don't really feel at home in the England team and I think that is partly because I have played so few games.

"It is a similar experience to that you undergo when as a youngster you are breaking into the club team and you perhaps hang back a little. That is the problem I am experiencing at the moment in the England team."

It is a frustrating conundrum for Ron Greenwood and Glenn Hoddle to ponder over but one that must be solved if England are to fully benefit from the Spurs star's undoubted ability.

Hoddle is still only 24 and so we can talk of him in terms of the next two world cups and perhaps a sustained run in the England team might just establish him as the key figure for 1982.



The PAUL PARISH page

THE AGE OF EXPERIENCE

THE great debate over Dave Watson's absence from the heart of England's defence raged on long after England had finally established their place in the World Cup Finals.

Watson's presence at the centre of England's back line had been a reassuring sight for a number of years. But eventually time had caught up with one of the country's most consistent servants.

Dropped by his club Southampton, to spend his time playing in the Football Combination, Watson was, nevertheless, included in Ron Greenwood's squad for the decisive match with Hungary.

Most expected Watson, now 35 and desperately short of big match practice, to be employed on the grounds of experience. In the event Greenwood decided on the relatively untried promise of West Ham's Alvin Martin.

Yet what really cost Watson his chance? Was it his age or was it the fact that he wasn't a regular in Southampton's first team?

Age, I don't believe, came into the final reckoning. Manager Greenwood has never been the type to cast a man aside simply on the grounds that he is well past thirty.

Greenwood's philosophy was ably summed up on the morning after the Hungarian night before when he met the press for his usual breakfast-time talk-in.

Said Greenwood: "Few teams have won major trophies with an entirely young team, while some have had success with old ones.

"Though the team that carried us to Spain is basically composed of older players there is plenty of youth in the squad.

"I want to keep the basis of a settled side," he added. "And introduce players gradually to see if they can establish themselves. I want a balanced blend between experience and youth."

ON THE BALL

The inference was there for all to see — age will not matter if a player is still good enough.

Coincidentally, I was at Southampton a few days after the England v Hungary match and watched as Kevin Keegan, one of England's particularly successful 30-plus brigade, was upstaged by a veteran of the 1966 World Cup triumph, Alan Ball.

Bally is now 36 and admits: "I don't make so many forward runs as I used to. I try to keep my football simple and I try not to get exposed for pace."

There was a mischievous twinkle in the little man's eye when he was asked whether he considered whether he could still do a job for England. "I haven't seen a lot better around," he grinned.

It was a point that had already been taken up by Saints boss, Lawrie McMenemy, who has never shunned the chance to buy top class experience. Watson, of course, is another man who was brought to The Dell well after the age of 30 and McMenemy was prepared to back his centre half for the job against Hungary even though he had only been playing for his own reserve side.

Keegan was another player of vast experience lured to Southampton, and Ball is currently in his second stay at the club. He tried management at Blackpool and while that didn't work out McMenemy didn't have any hesitation in resigning the impish midfielder.

Much the same can be said of Mike Channon, who spent a few years away at Manchester City before being restored to the Southampton playing staff.

"You know me," said McMenemy. "I've never been afraid to go out and buy players when they are over 30.

"Those people who talk about players being

too old should have been here today and seen that performance by Bally.

REASSURANCE

"There's been a great deal of pressure on Ron Greenwood to get rid of his over 30s. But just because a player has reached that age it doesn't suddenly mean he's no good any more."

For men like Keegan and Trevor Brooking or goalkeepers Ray Clemence and Peter Shilton that is very reassuring talk — if they needed reassurance, that is.

And like Greenwood said, most of the successful sides have players of considerable experience in vital positions.

Of course, that all happened in the week that Northern Ireland, too, qualified for the World Cup Finals. That really is a superb achievement for Billy Bingham's boys and everyone in football shed a particular smile of approval for Arsenal goalkeeper Pat Jennings, who will take his remarkable ability to the biggest stage in the business next year.

Jennings, the gentle Irishman, will be 36 when Northern Ireland open up their World Cup bid in Spain. His reaction to the success was wholly expected.

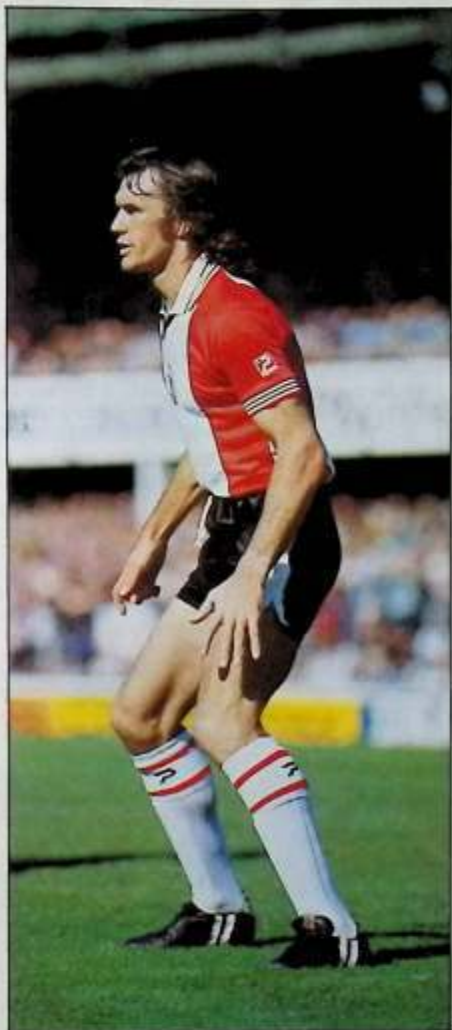
"I thought I would never get there," he said. "I have had so many disappointments in my international career but I knew we would never have a better chance than we had in this group."

"I have had some great moments with both Tottenham and Arsenal but not much that beats the feeling of going to the World Cup."

Jennings is Northern Ireland's international caps record holder. In 17 years at the top he has played for his country on 89 occasions — and has never been anything less than a supreme sportsman.

Above all Jennings has remained at the top of his profession and age hasn't come into it. Perhaps goalkeepers are in a more specialised position but they still have to maintain speed of reflex and movement if they are to stay at the top.

England and Northern Ireland will go to Spain with experience in their ranks . . . and that, I suggest, is a comforting thought.



England's Dave Watson — not too old.

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Soccer Scene

CROWDS UP!

By Tony Pullein

One of the most encouraging features of Fourth Division football this season has been that, over the first half of the campaign, as many as ten clubs have been showing an increase in attendances. And the average attendance for ALL Fourth Division matches shows an increase of 133 per game on last season.

While it is generally agreed that the Fourth Division has been leading the drive for better entertainment, I can reveal the sobering fact that few of these increases would have happened but for a missed penalty!

When Don Givens, of Sheffield United, saw his spot-kick saved in the dying moments of their final game against Walsall last season, it meant the Blades would drop into Division Four for the first time in their history.

The Sheffield club has been drawing huge crowds by Fourth Division standards and have also attracted larger than average attendances at all of their away games.

Though Wigan Athletic are placed fifth in the Fourth Division averages this season with a figure of 4,897, Sheffield United have only once this season played to a crowd below that figure. But even the 4,168 who saw them at Northampton was just about double the Cobblers' average!

The following table compares this season's average home League attendances with the clubs' final figures for last season.

	This season	1980/81	Difference
Bradford City	5,847	2,858	+ 2,989
Bournemouth	5,340	3,380	+ 1,960
Bury	4,051	2,748	+ 1,303
Torquay	2,954	2,050	+ 904
Port Vale	3,394	2,738	+ 656
Colchester	3,175	2,645	+ 530
Stockport	2,835	2,335	+ 500
Wigan Athletic	4,897	4,434	+ 463
York City	2,594	2,245	+ 349
Peterborough	4,256	4,137	+ 119
Tranmere	1,896	1,901	- 5
Hereford	2,428	2,444	- 16
Northampton	2,120	2,305	- 185
Halifax	1,738	1,924	- 186
Scunthorpe	2,169	2,357	- 188
Sheffield United	12,493	12,772	- 279
Rochdale	2,022	2,460	- 438
Blackpool	5,370	5,863	- 493
Hull	3,709	4,319	- 610
Aldershot	2,289	2,989	- 700
Mansfield	2,666	3,400	- 734
Derlington	1,730	2,537	- 807
Crewe	2,027	2,909	- 882
Hartlepool	2,053	3,115	- 1,062



Dave Caldwell



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Half Time Check

A	BARNET		J	MANCHESTER CITY		R	WATFORD	
	BRIGHTON & HOVE A.			CARDIFF CITY			MANCHESTER UNITED	
B	BIRMINGHAM CITY		K	NOTTS COUNTY		S	WEST BROMWICH A.	
	IPSWICH TOWN			ASTON VILLA			BLACKBURN ROVERS	
C	BOLTON WANDERERS		L	ORIENT		T	WEST HAM UNITED	
	DERBY COUNTY			CHARLTON ATHLETIC			EVERTON	
D	COVENTRY CITY		M	QUEENS PARK RANGERS		U	WOLVERHAMPTON W.	
	SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY			MIDDLESBROUGH			LEEDS UNITED	
E	DONCASTER ROVERS		N	ROTHERHAM UNITED		V	CHESTERFIELD	
	CAMBRIDGE UNITED			SUNDERLAND			PRESTON NORTH END	
F	ENFIELD		O	STOKE CITY		W	LINCOLN CITY	
	CRYSTAL PALACE			NORWICH CITY			CHESTER	
G	LEICESTER CITY		P	SWANSEA CITY		X		
	SOUTHAMPTON			LIVERPOOL				
H	LUTON TOWN		Q	TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR		Y		
	SWINDON TOWN			ARSENAL				

Football League, Div 4

1981-82

1981/82	Opponents	A	F	A	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug	10 Ipswich	4,310	0	0	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Sep	11 Scunthorpe United (LC1 1st Leg)	2,249	0	0	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	5 A.F.C. Bourne	2,360	0	0	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	12 Scunthorpe United (LC1 2nd Leg)	2,258	0	0	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	15 Bury	2,501	1	1	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	21 Middlesbrough	2,612	1	1	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	26 Scunthorpe United	2,456	0	0	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	30 Scunthorpe United	3,466	2	2	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Oct	7 Bradford City (LC1 1st Leg)	4,293	4	3	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	10 Hull City	3,464	3	3	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	17 Scunthorpe United	1,953	0	1	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	24 Scunthorpe United	2,513	0	1	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	30 Bradford City (LC1 2nd Leg)	3,522	0	2	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Nov	2 Scunthorpe United	2,081	0	3	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	2 Colchester United	2,234	1	1	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	14 Scunthorpe United	3,300	4	3	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	21 Doncaster Rovers (FAC1)	5,456	0	1	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Dec	28 Hereford United	1,808	2	2	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Jan	5 Tranmere Rovers	1,316	2	2	Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	9 Walsley Athletic (D)				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	16 Hartlepool United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Feb	20 Bradford City				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	23 Peterborough U. (H)				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	30 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	5 Northampton T.				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	13 Blackpool (S)				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Mar	20 Aldershot				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	27 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	8 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	13 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	16 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	20 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	23 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
Apr	3 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	10 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	13 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	17 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
May	21 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	5 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	8 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
	15 Scunthorpe United				Arnold	McJannet	Wood	Bell	Boam	Bird	Thomson	Parkinson	Lumby	Woodhead	Nicholson	Mann
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- 2 **LES McJANNET**
- 3 **BARRY FOSTER**
- 4 **CHARLIE BELL**
- 5 **ADRIAN BURROWS**
- 6 **IAN WOOD**
- 7 **JIM LUMBY**
- 8 **TREVOR MORGAN**
- 9 **ARTHUR MANN**
- 10 **DAVE CALDWELL**
- 11 **NOEL PARKINSON**
- 12

Team changes

WIGAN ATHLETIC

Red Shirts, Red Shorts

- 1 **ROY TUNKS**
- 2 **JOHN McMAHON**
- 3 **DAVID GLENN**
- 4 **MARK WIGNALL**
- 5 **LARRY LLOYD**
- 6 **COLIN METHVEN**
- 7 **KEVIN SHELDON**
- 8 **GRAHAM BARROW**
- 9 **PETER HOUGHTON**
- 10 **MIKE QUINN**
- 11 **CLIVE EVANS**
- 12

Team changes

OFFICIALS

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J. C. DEAKIN
BEDFORD

Linesmen:

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H. V. TOMSON (Tamworth) — Yellow Flag

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